THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. A jacketed projectile comprising a solid central core with a frustoconical portion which is not in continuous contact with the jacket.
- 2. A projectile as in claim 1 comprising a gap between the jacket and the core along the surface of said fustro-conical portion of the core.
- 3. A projectile as in claim 2 wherein the tapered encircling gap is air-filled.
- 4. A projectile in accordance with claim 1 wherein the steel core comprises carbon steel.
- 5. A projectile in accordance with claim 4 wherein the hardness of the steel core is at least 45 on the Rockwell C hardness scale.
- 6. A projectile according to claim 1 comprising a one-piece core with a forward portion having an ogival front end, followed by said frusto-conical portion, whereby the junction of the ogival front end and the frusto-conical portion provides a relatively smooth transition zone.
- 7. A projectile according to claim 1 wherein the conical angle of the frusto-conical portion of the core is between 0.7 and 1.0°.
- 8. A projectile according to claim 6 further including a short cylindrical parallel portion of the core extending rearwardly from the frusto-conical portion.

- 9. A projectile according to claim 8 wherein the cylindrical parallel portion of the core is less than 30% of the length of than the frusto-conical portion.
- 10. A projectile according to claim 9 further including a rearwardly tapering end portion of the core after the cylindrical parallel portion.
- 11. A projectile according to claim 10 wherein the rearwardly tapering end portion of the core has a conical angle of about 83°.
- 12. A projectile in accordance with claim 1 wherein the jacket material comprises gilding metal.
- 13. A projectile in accordance with claim 12 wherein the gilding metal jacket comprises approximately 90% copper and 10% zinc.